



POLICE FORCE,  
(DETECTIVE BRANCH.)

*noted.*  
*Shanghai Municipal Council.*

17th April

1916

Sir,

At 3 p.m. 16th inst, a meeting was held by the Fokienese community in their guild on Foochow Road for the purpose of devising ways and means to induce the military authorities to abandon their intention of sending northern troops to Fokien, such action being calculated to disturb the peace of that province. There were about 100 persons present, and one Wong Toh Sung 王德生 acted as chairman. After a discussion lasting an hour and a half it was decided to send telegrams to Liu Kwan Yung, Naval Minister, to the Foochow Military and Civil Governors, to the Foochow Chamber of Commerce, pointing out the danger to which the presence of strange troops would expose the province and exhorting these people to use their influence with the Central Government and thus prevent the despatch of northern troops.

At 11 a.m. 16th inst, the City Magistrate entertained some forty members of the local gentry to tea in his yamen, and announced that he and General Yang had decided to avoid fighting in the neighbourhood of Shanghai. He and General Yang would accept full responsibility for the adequate protection of the people. He also stated that were it not for the good offices of Yu Yah Ching 俞雅卿 in exhorting him to abandon his evil intention, Chen Chi Mei would have burned and looted the Chinese City.

Having received information that the rebels are trying to convene a National Assembly at No. 203 Avenue Joffre in Frenchtown, the Central Government has sent a high official named Zee Sz Yoong 徐世昌 to Shanghai to try to prevent this. It is said that he is conferring with Wu Ting Fang and Tang Shao Yi.

It is reported that the situation in Soochow is critical. Four soldiers alleged to have connection with the rebels were shot at the Arsenal yesterday morning.

Five hundred troops arrived at Woosung by train at 6 a.m. 17th inst. These men came from the North, and it is said that more will follow.

It is reported that isolated cases of petty looting by the troops continue at Woosung.

Your obedient servant,

*Miniminations*

Chief Detective Inspector.

*Delivered on M.S. April 17.*  
Captain Superintendent of Police.